

# **TO 39: ICT4E Quarterly Report FY 2012, Q1**

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## **GLOBAL EVALUATION & MONITORING II GEM II BPA Number EDH-E-39-08-00003-00**

Contract No. AID-EDH-E-00-08-00003  
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Submitted by the  
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**GEM II, Task Order 39 Quarterly Report**  
**ICT4E**  
**FY 2012, Quarterly Report: October 1, 2011 – December 31, 2011**

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The present Task Order was signed in the third quarter of FY2011, on June 22, 2011. The activities outlined in this Quarterly Report focused largely on supporting the launch of USAID's Education Grand Challenge: All Children Reading, and follow-up activities related to further developing the Mobiles for Education (mEducation) Alliance and its Working Groups, particularly Mobiles for Reading.

**(1) Analytical Research**

- Aguirre/JBS conducted reviews of existing and promising projects using mobile devices as assistive technologies, in the context of identifying a project to highlight for the October 2011 Seminar Series. Research efforts this quarter also included analyses of mobile technologies used for youth and workforce development projects, reading and literacy projects, and a market trend analysis on micro ("pico") projectors and their potential uses in educational development.

**(2) Knowledge Exchange**

- Aguirre/JBS attended and reported on relevant events this quarter, including USAID's Partnership Forum and Qualcomm's WirelessEd Conference, both held on October 20<sup>th</sup> in Washington, D.C.
- At the discretion of the COTR, Aguirre/JBS assisted affiliated organizations with knowledge sharing related to ICT4E / mEducation activities; specifically Aguirre/JBS provided support to Alcatel-Lucent connecting them to various researchers and resources related to mobiles in education projects for the production of a working paper for the WEF (World Economic Forum), and corresponded with writers of a UNESCO report on the use of ICTs in workforce development.

**(3) E-Forums, Workshops, and Conferences**

- This quarter, Aguirre/JBS provided extensive support for the launch event of USAID's Education Grand Challenge: All Children Reading (ACR), held in Washington, D.C. on November 18<sup>th</sup>. Related activities and expenditures included:
  - Procured and implemented contract for venue (Ronald Reagan Building Amphitheatre) and ACR video piece (Circle Media/Hermon Farahi).
  - Event registration website and nametag printing, recruitment and coordination of "petting zoo" of project demonstrations, and audio-visual planning;
  - Assisted in event staffing with DAI and USAID staff.
- This quarter, Aguirre/ JBS also convened two of the monthly Seminar Series for the mEducation Alliance: October (Mobile Devices as Assistive Technologies) and December (mWomen and mEducation). November's seminar was deferred as a result of increased focus on the ACR launch event.

- As agreed to internally by officers at EGAT/ED, funds from the present task order were also used to support a professional development retreat for EGAT/ED staff, held at the end of November. This effort included professional services for meeting facilitation and related activities, carried out by Associates for Global Change.

#### **(4) Support for Improved Analysis of ICT4E Global Activities**

- This quarter, Aguirre/JBS assisted with a concise review of EMIS activities funded under Equip 2 leader awards, at the request of the COTR.
- Aguirre/JBS' participation in UNESCO's mLearning Week also contributed to knowledge-collecting efforts in the field of mobile technologies for education.

#### **(5) Mobiles for Education for Development Alliance**

- Aguirre/JBS dedicated significant effort this quarter to the development of the mEducation Alliance website, including soliciting feedback from Alliance stakeholders and the COTR. It is expected that a public launch of the website will take place early in the coming quarter.
- Aguirre/JBS continued to coordinate communications for the mEducation Alliance and its Steering Committee, including conference calls and a luncheon meeting held on November 18<sup>th</sup>. Specific efforts involved several iterations of the Alliance's charter and follow-up correspondence for securing the adoption of this document by partner organizations.
- At the request of the COTR, Aguirre/JBS traveled to and attended UNESCO's mLearning Week in Paris, France, to participate in the experts meeting and public Symposium on mobile learning. Effort related to this conference contributed to both activities four and five as it was used to both gather information on policy trends in the field and also to network, represent and promote the mEducation Alliance.
- Aguirre/JBS created a number of promotional and print materials, including pop-up banners, brochures and the development of a logo to reflect the Alliance's new name.

#### **Anticipated Activities for Coming Quarter**

In the coming quarter, Aguirre/JBS will continue to focus on the development of the mEducation Alliance. Specifically, support will be provided to nurture the Alliance's partnerships, Working Groups (Mobiles for Reading, Mobiles for Youth & Workforce Development). The coming quarter will also see the public launch of the Alliance's website, anticipated for late January 2012.

Aguirre/JBS will continue to provide technical and logistical support as needed for activities related to the Education Grand Challenge: All Children Reading. In the coming quarter, this may include supporting the review process of submitted funding proposals.

#### **Budget Overview**

The following table displays the expenses allocated to date (Program Year 1 Actual) to each sub-activity of this Task Order, and shows current status against budgeted resources.

<b>Task Order Activity</b>	<b>FY2012 Q1</b>	<b>PY 1 Actual</b>	<b>PY1 Obligated Budget</b>	<b>PY1 Budget Balance</b>
<b>A.</b> Analytical Research	\$5,250.69	\$19,145.67	\$122,982.00	\$103,836.33
<b>B.</b> Knowledge Exchange	\$947.72	\$7,912.99	\$52,461.00	\$44,548.01
<b>C.</b> E-Forums, Workshops, and Conferences	\$47,614.13	\$201,001.10	\$86,347.00	<b>\$114,654.10</b>
<b>D.</b> Support for Improved Analysis of ICT4E Global Activities	\$3,482.75	\$5,371.32	\$137,000.00	\$131,628.68
<b>E.</b> Mobiles for Education for Development Alliance	\$29,842.37	\$107,880.91	\$95,454.00	<b>\$12,426.91</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$87,137.66</b>	<b>\$341,311.99</b>	<b>\$494,244.00</b>	<b>\$152,932.01</b>